

to an agreement to provide a dual credit program entered into or renewed on or after September 1, 2018.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed by the House on May 4, 2017: Yeas 142, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 11, 2017: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved May 23, 2017.

Effective May 23, 2017.

PRESERVATION, MAINTENANCE, AND IMPROVEMENT OF THE CAPITOL AND THE CAPITOL GROUNDS

CHAPTER 94

H.B. No. 1829

AN ACT

relating to the preservation, maintenance, and improvement of the Capitol and the Capitol grounds.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 443.030, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 443.030. **SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS.** (a) The board may establish, maintain, and participate in the operation of one or more organizations of persons whose purpose is to raise funds for or provide services or other benefits to the board. *The [Such an] organization may be incorporated as a Texas nonprofit corporation.*

(b) *The board shall contract with a nonprofit corporation formed to assist in the preservation, maintenance, and improvement of the Capitol and the Capitol grounds to develop and implement a plan for the solicitation and acceptance of gifts, grants, devises, and bequests of money, other property, and services to be used to preserve, maintain, and improve the Capitol and the Capitol grounds. The board may contract with a nonprofit corporation described by Subsection (a) or another nonprofit corporation.*

SECTION 2. The State Preservation Board shall enter into the contract required by Section 443.030, Government Code, as amended by this Act, not later than September 1, 2018.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed by the House on April 6, 2017: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 11, 2017: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Approved May 23, 2017.

Effective September 1, 2017.

REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO AN APPLICATION FOR A PLACE ON THE BALLOT

CHAPTER 95

S.B. No. 44

AN ACT

relating to requirements relating to an application for a place on the ballot.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 141.032(c), Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) If an application is accompanied by a petition, the petition is considered part of the application, and the review shall be completed as soon as practicable after the date the application is received by the authority. However, the petition is not considered part of the application for purposes of determining compliance with the requirements applicable to each document, and a deficiency in the requirements for one document may not be remedied by the contents of the other document. *Unless the petition is challenged, the authority is only required to review the petition for facial compliance with the applicable requirements as to form, content, and procedure.*

SECTION 2. Section 141.034, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(a) An application for a place on the ballot may not be challenged for compliance with the applicable requirements as to form, content, and procedure after the day before any ballot to be voted early by mail is mailed to an address in the authority's jurisdiction ~~[the beginning of early voting by personal appearance]~~ for the election for which the application is made.

(c) *A challenge must state with specificity how the application does not comply with the applicable requirements as to form, content, and procedure. The authority's review of the challenge is limited to the specific items challenged and any response filed with the authority by the challenged candidate.*

SECTION 3. Section 172.021, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsections (e) and (g) to read as follows:

(e) *A candidate for an office specified by Section 172.024(a)(8), (10), or (12), or for justice of the peace in a county with a population of more than 1.5 million, who chooses to pay the filing fee must also accompany the application with a petition for a place on the primary ballot as a candidate for judicial office that complies with the requirements prescribed for the petition authorized by Subsection (b), except that the minimum number of signatures that must appear on the petition required by this subsection is 250. If the candidate chooses to file the petition authorized by Subsection (b) in lieu of the filing fee, the minimum number of signatures required for that petition is increased by 250. Signatures on a petition filed under this subsection or Subsection (b) by a candidate covered by this subsection may not be obtained on the grounds of a county courthouse or courthouse annex.*

(g) *A candidate for the office of chief justice or justice, supreme court, or presiding judge or judge, court of criminal appeals, who chooses to pay the filing fee must also accompany the application with a petition that complies with the requirements prescribed for a petition authorized by Subsection (b), except that the minimum number of signatures that must appear on the petition required by this subsection is 50 from each court of appeals district.*

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

Passed the Senate on February 28, 2017: Yeas 31, Nays 0; the Senate concurred in House amendments on May 16, 2017: Yeas 30, Nays 0; passed the House, with amendments, on May 9, 2017: Yeas 144, Nays 1, one present not voting.

Approved May 23, 2017.

Effective May 23, 2017.